



**North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services
Division of Aging and Adult Services**

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Michael F. Easley, Governor

Dennis W. Streets
Director

July 27, 2007

Dear *Candlelight Reflections* Participant,

I am very excited about the upcoming 2007 *Candlelight Reflections* initiative — a partnership of the North Carolina Family Caregiver Support Program and the State Alzheimer's Support Network. Last year, the first annual *Candlelight Reflections* resulted in over 100 events across the state. This type of unified, collaborative approach helps raise public awareness and strengthen statewide efforts to support family caregivers of persons with debilitating conditions, including those living with Alzheimer's disease and related disorders.

The enclosed 2007 *Candlelight Reflections* toolkit was developed by a team of dedicated professionals from organizations across the state. I hope you will find these suggestions and resources helpful and that they will serve as valuable tools to aid in developing your own local *Candlelight Reflections*. We hope all counties in North Carolina hold at least one Candlelight Reflections event. We will be tracking availability of events on our web site (<http://www.dhhs.state.nc.us/aging/home.htm>). If you are holding an event, please inform us and/or your local Alzheimer's Association Chapter so that we can include this information on our web page. Attached is a form you can use to report information on all 2007 Candlelight Reflections scheduled in your community.

If you need more information or further assistance, please contact any of the following *Candlelight Reflections* supporters:

- The *Candlelight Reflections* founders— NC Alzheimer's Association Chapters:
Eastern North Carolina (919) 832-3732 or www.alznc.org
Western Carolina (704) 532-7392 or www.alz-nc.org;
- Duke Bryan Alzheimer's Disease Research Center African-American Community Outreach Program: 1-866-444-2372; and/or
- Your local Area Agency on Aging Family Caregiver Resource Specialists: a list can be found at www.dhhs.state.nc.us/aging/fcaregr/fcjobs.htm or call the NC Division of Aging and Adult Services at (919) 733-3983.

We greatly appreciate your commitment and dedication to help make our second annual *Candlelight Reflections* a success and for investing the time and effort "to honor, hope, and remember" all family caregivers and Alzheimer's families throughout North Carolina.

Sincerely,

Dennis W. Streets